

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for detecting the presence of at least one ~~predesignated, target~~ antibody to [a] *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigens, the antibody present in a sample selected from one or more patient bodily fluids, which comprises the following steps: (a) contacting the sample with a conjugated label having an indicator dye, thereby forming an antibody-conjugated label complex; (b) allowing the antibody-conjugated label complex to migrate along a lateral-flow assay membrane and contact at least one membrane-bound *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen, thereby forming an antigen-antibody complex and causing the indicator dye to precipitate and form a detectable signal; and (c) detecting the signal, whereby the presence of the predesignated ~~target~~ antibody is determined in the sample by the presence of the signal.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more bodily fluids is selected from the group consisting of saliva, oral rinse expectorant, oral fluid, gingival crevicular fluid, urine, sweat, tears, blood, serum, stool, gastric fluid, synovial fluid, and phlegm.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the one or more bodily fluids is saliva or diluted serum.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of evaluating immunization status of the patient from whom the sample came by comparing the signal or lack thereof with immunizations previously received by the patient and in comparison to a known standard control.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the antigen specifically binds to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* specific antibodies.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the antigen comprises a mixture of two or more antigens.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the antigen is selected from the group consisting of 38kDa and 16kDa antigens.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the membrane has at least a first stripe of the antigen, and a control stripe, the control stripe formed by striping a material that will produce a detectable signal as the sample flows across the control stripe.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the membrane has a least a first stripe of a first antigen, a second stripe of a second antigen that is different from the first antigen of the first stripe, and a control stripe, the control

stripe formed by striping a material that will produce a detectable signal as the sample flows across the control stripe, the second stripe located between the first stripe and the control stripe.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the second stripe comprises a shared mycobacterial antigen common to all mycobacteria or a mixture of such antigens.

11. (Currently amended) An immunoassay kit for detecting at least one ~~predesignated target~~ antibody to [a] *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigens, the antibody present in a sample selected from one or more patient bodily fluids, which comprises: (a) a sample pad, (b) a conjugated label pad, the conjugated label pad having an indicator dye, a portion of the conjugated label pad and a portion of the sample pad forming a first interface, (c) a lateral-flow assay comprising a membrane, a portion of the membrane and a portion of the conjugated label pad forming a second interface, and (d) at least one *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen bound to the membrane, the first interface allowing fluid to flow from the sample pad to the conjugated label pad and contact the indicator dye wherein the ~~predesignated target~~ antibody present in the sample forms [a first] an antibody-conjugated label complex ~~with the conjugated label~~, the second interface allowing fluid to flow from the conjugated label pad to the membrane and to contact the at least one membrane-bound *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen[,], ~~the antigen forming a to form to an antigen-antibody complex and cause with the predesignated target~~

~~antibody present in the sample and causing~~ the indicator dye to precipitate and form a detectable signal.

12. (Previously presented) The immunoassay kit of claim 11, wherein the at least one *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen specifically binds to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* specific antibodies.

13. (Previously presented) The immunoassay kit of claim 11, wherein the at least one *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen comprises two or more *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigens.

14. (Previously presented) The immunoassay kit of claim 11, wherein the at least one *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen is selected from the group consisting of 38kDa and 16kDa antigens.

15. (Previously presented) The immunoassay kit of claim 11, wherein the membrane has at least a first stripe of the at least one *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen, and a control stripe, the control stripe formed by striping a material that will produce a detectable signal as the sample flows across the control stripe.

16. (Previously presented) The immunoassay kit of claim 11, wherein the membrane has a least a first stripe of a first antigen, a second stripe of a second

antigen that is different from the first antigen of the first stripe, and a control stripe, the control stripe formed by striping a material that will produce a detectable signal as the sample flows across the control stripe, the second stripe located between the first stripe and the control stripe.

17. (Original) The immunoassay kit of claim 16, wherein the second stripe comprises a shared mycobacterial antigen common to all mycobacteria or a mixture of such antigens.

18. (Original) The immunoassay kit of claim 11, wherein the conjugated label pad comprises Protein A conjugated to a label.

19. (Previously presented) The immunoassay kit of claim 18, wherein the conjugated label comprises colloidal gold.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the conjugated label comprises Protein A.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the conjugated label comprises colloidal gold.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one membrane-bound *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen is selected from the group consisting of purified protein derivative, natural and recombinant proteins selected from the group consisting of 38kDa, 16kDa, ESAT-6, MPT-63, TB23 HYT6, F29.47, 21-2H3, and MPT40 antigens or a mixture thereof.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the first stripe comprises a latent *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen, and the second stripe comprises an active *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the second stripe comprises a mixture of shared common mycobacterial antigens selected from the group consisting of P32 of *M. bovis*, 65kDa BCG antigen, 64kDa BCG antigen, MPB57, BCG-a, and LAM.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the antigen is a recombinant antigen.

26. (Previously presented) The immunoassay kit of claim 11, wherein the at least one *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen bound to the membrane is selected from the group consisting of purified protein derivative, natural and recombinant proteins

selected from the group consisting of 38kDa, 16kDa, ESAT-6, MPT-63, TB23 HYT6, F29.47, 21-2H3, and MPT40 antigens or a mixture thereof.

27. (Previously presented) The immunoassay kit of claim 16, wherein the first stripe comprises a latent *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen, and the second stripe comprises an active *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* antigen.

28. (Previously presented) The immunoassay kit of claim 17, wherein the second stripe comprises a mixture of shared common mycobacterial antigens selected from the group consisting of P32 of *M. bovis*, 65kDa BCG antigen, 64kDa BCG antigen, MPB57, BCG-a, and LAM.

29. (Previously presented) The immunoassay kit of claim 11, wherein the antigen is a recombinant antigen.